

SWAC C&D Subcommittee Meeting
MassDEP – Bureau of Air & Waste
March 28, 2018; 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Meeting Minutes:

Recorded by: Allie Phillips and Mike Elliott

NOTE: Copies of the meeting minutes and presentation slides will be made available on the MassDEP C&D Subcommittee webpage. The MassDEP C&D Subcommittee webpage can be found at the following URL: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/cd-subcommittee.html>. Comments can be submitted via email to Mike Elliott at michael.elliott@state.ma.us.

The following agenda items were covered during the meeting:

1) Welcome/Introductions

- a) MassDEP welcomed participants in the room and on the webinar.
 - i) Participants in conference room: 22 (as recorded on meeting sign-in sheets)
 - ii) Participants on webinar: 10 (as recorded on webinar attendee report)
 - iii) Participants reflected a cross-section of stakeholders representing: C&D Processors and Transfer Stations; Waste Haulers; Recycling Processors; Biomass Energy Recovery; Consultants; Construction Contractors, State and Municipal Officials; Industry/Trade Associations

2) C&D Action Plan Development

MassDEP reminded the meeting participants that the main purpose of today's meeting is to solicit feedback on the themes emerging from data collection and stakeholder engagement efforts over the past year to develop the C&D Action Plan. Ultimately, the C&D Action Plan will be incorporated into the next 10-year Solid Waste Master Plan (SWMP) for 2020 to 2030, which establishes high level policy goals, objectives and strategies to guide the MassDEP-BAW Solid Waste program. Today's meeting is the first of three C&D Subcommittee meetings scheduled this year to further refine the specific targets and objectives of the C&D Action Plan. MassDEP expects to compile a draft of the SWMP, including the C&D Action Plan, for public comment in 2019. After completing the public comment process, the plan is to issue the final SWMP in 2020.

The themes under discussion at this C&D Subcommittee meeting can be divided into three broad categories as follows:

- i) Jobsite Waste Management
 - (1) Promote waste re-use, reduction and separation at the jobsite
- ii) Enhance C&D Handling Facility Performance
 - (2) Improve performance of existing C&D waste bans
 - (3) Improve recovery rates at existing C&D Handling Facilities
- iii) Expand/Develop End Markets
 - (4) Expand existing/new wood markets
 - (5) Identify outlets for C&D fines
 - (6) Promote interagency cooperation with MassDOT, DCAM, etc.

The following is a synopsis of the discussion generated around each of these themes:

- (1) Promote waste re-use, reduction and separation at the jobsite:

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- Skepticism was expressed by some as to implementation and logistics; for example, how to get workers on jobsite to conform to logistical complexities.
- Some felt GCs would welcome the idea to recover certain materials. Much would depend on the space constraints and project schedule. One suggestion was to add source separation practices as a subject for the annual contractor safety week activities.
- C&D Processors strongly support the concept of jobsite source separation for materials not readily recovered by the mixed C&D processing facilities, e.g. gypsum wallboard, ceiling tiles. In fact, several advocated mandating gypsum abatement prior to demolition. However, processors do not support source separation for most other C&D materials.

(2) Improve performance of existing C&D waste bans:

- One commenter highlighted the inherent inequity in the market created by allowing low performing facilities to manage mixed C&D waste at a relatively low operating cost while high performing C&D processors, who have invested millions of dollars in mechanical sorting equipment and picking lines, incur much higher operating costs. This commenter opined that transfer stations and low performing facilities should be paired with high performing C&D processors equipped with mechanical sorting equipment and picking lines to ensure that mixed C&D waste is processed properly.
- The same commenter suggested that such inequities lead to leakage of unprocessed or inadequately processed C&D waste for disposal, and undermines the viability of the C&D recycling program.
- MassDEP introduced a proposal to require minimum performance standards at all C&D Handling Facilities that would apply to all materials accepted (including Bulky/DTM). In concert with the performance standard, MassDEP will ensure that Facilities accepting inbound “C&D Residuals” for disposal will conform to the program’s definition of that term – which specifically excludes materials remaining after positive pick operations at the jobsite or on the tipping floor (i.e., kick-sorting).
- One of the trade association representatives opined that the minimum performance standard won’t work unless generators are required to use C&D Processors meeting the desired performance standards.
- Questions came up how MassDEP would enforce performance standards; a suggestion was made to impose “Claw Back” requirements in which the underperforming facility would have its permitted tonnage cut back and only be allowed to increase its allowed tonnage incrementally after demonstrating better performance.
- An industry association representative suggested that in order to ensure a level playing field, MassDEP should consider requiring certification through an independent, third-party organization such as the Recycling Certification Institute (RCI) in Sacramento, CA.
- After the meeting, the industry association representative suggested that MassDEP might want to consider offering grants to offset the cost to C&D Processors to apply for certification under the RCI organization.

(3) Improve recovery rates at existing C&D Handling Facilities:

- MassDEP has selected “Clean Wood” as one of the target materials for the CY2018 Recycling Business Development Grant Program.
- MassDEP opined that this might provide an opportunity to explore the installation of innovative wood sorting technologies at C&D processors.

- One question that was raised was what to do with the additional quantity of clean wood assuming it can be recovered.

(4) Expand existing/new wood markets:

- No specific ideas emerged on this subject at this time.

(5) Identify outlets for C&D fines:

- In response to a question from group, MassDEP confirmed that BUD approvals to date for C&D Fines only allow landfill dependent use applications.

(6) Promote interagency cooperation with MassDOT, DCAM, etc.:

- MassDEP described its recent outreach to MassDOT to discuss revising the specification for hot-mix asphalt (HMA) to allow the use of a small fraction of processed recycled asphalt shingle. MassDOT provided initial feedback from its engineering group detailing several technical reasons why it is disinclined to grant such a request – which basically comes down to reduced performance life of paved surfaces at greater cost to the Commonwealth. Despite that, MassDOT has offered to meet with MassDEP at its engineering facility in Hopkinton in April to discuss the matter further and possibly explore other options.
- One idea proposed by the stakeholders in the room was to explore MassDOT's willingness to create a separate specification for lower intensity applications such as secondary roads and other municipal infrastructure.
- MassDEP also described its recent outreach to DCAM. Pending further discussion, MassDEP and DCAM will explore the possibility of partnering on a surplus property management project at the Monson State Hospital later this year.

3) Announcements/Open Discussion

1. Construction & Demolition Recycling Association Updates: Bill Turley, Executive Director of CDRA, provided the following updates:
 - 50-State Regulatory Profile is complete and available on CDRA website
 - The shinglerecycling.org website has been updated
 - Internal review is underway on two documents prepared by outside experts characterizing C&D Fines.
 - CDRA serves on the USGBC Materials and Recycling Technical Advisory Committee. CDRA is advocating revisions to the next version of LEED specifications to recognize the various products generated by C&D processors as separate recycled streams equivalent to source separated materials.
 - CDRA participated in a strategic planning meeting hosted by EPA earlier this year on the subject of Sustainable Material Management for the Built Environment. Bill reported that the Life Cycle Analysis methods accounting for Greenhouse Gas emissions and Energy Recovery are being evaluated to improve traditional mass-based recycling rate metrics for C&D materials.
2. RecyclingWorks (RW) in Massachusetts update:
 - MassDEP reported that the RW C&D Materials Guidance webpage has been updated to include reference to the latest EPA "State of the Practice of Construction and Demolition Material Recovery" (EPA/600/R-17/231, 2017).
3. Recycling Business Development Grant Program
 - MassDEP reported that two grants have been awarded in CY2018 targeting C&D Wood and Bulky Rigid Plastic. For the next CY2018 RBDG cycle, MassDEP announced that one of the materials targeted for increased re-use and recycling will be Clean Wood.

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- One individual objected to awarding any grants to C&D Handling Facilities until inequities in facility performance are addressed, and the playing field is leveled.

4) Proposal

1. MassDEP proposed the idea of inviting one or two optical sorting equipment vendors to each of the next two C&D Subcommittee meetings to provide an overview of the application and capability of their respective technologies.
 - With time running out, no comments for or against this proposal were stated during the meeting.
 - MassDEP invited stakeholders to submit their opinions via email

5) Closing/Next Steps

1. Scheduled meetings through remainder of CY2018:
 - June 14, 2018
 - October 18, 2018

Respectfully,

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